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THEODORE WESTON

BY the death of Theodore Weston, an Honorary Fellow of the Museum, which occurred on May 7, 1919, in his eighty-seventh year, one of the last links between the Museum of today and that of 1870 has been severed. Since the death of Robert Gordon, Mr. Weston had been the last living incorporator. Although his active participation in Museum councils, as

member of the Provisional Committee of 1869, first recording secretary, trustee, and architect of the so-called South Wing, added in 1888, was a matter of the past, his interest in "its beneficent progress," as he expressed it, continued until the present. A familiar figure at the annual meetings of the Corporation, he paid a last visit to the building on April 7 at the opening of the Courbet Centenary Exhibition.

ACCESSIONS AND NOTES

A BEQUEST OF LACE. Through the bequest of Mrs. Margaret E. Zimmerman the lace collection has received a small group illustrating various types of bobbin and needlepoint fabrics, among which may be mentioned an interesting collar and square of gros point de Venise, excellent in design and technique. The laces will be shown in the Room of Recent Acquisitions during the month of June.

AN EGYPTIAN STATUETTE OF THE OLD KINGDOM. The Museum has recently acquired, by purchase, the upper part of a statuette,¹ in quartzite, portraying a dignitary of the Old Kingdom, which in many respects is illustrative of the higher achievements of the sculptors of the Memphite period. On the basis of style it can be dated to the V or VI dynasty.

The statuette is broken away at the waist, but is preserved sufficiently to indicate the abrupt turn forward of both arms at the elbows, fixing the original pose of the figure as either seated or squatting—and very probably the former, seated upon a heavy cubical seat, with the feet together and the hands resting upon the knees.

The figure is that of a man, vigorous in appearance and of robust physique. He wears the long wig, arranged in separate locks and parted in the middle, which, falling behind the ears, separates over the shoulders, extending down the back to the shoulder-blades and resting in front upon

the chest. The upper part of the body is nude, but if the statuette were intact we should find him clothed in a short skirt reaching to the knees. In the case of such sculptures in hard, colored stone the usual male body-color of red would have been omitted, but he was probably originally represented as wearing the broad collar, added in color, while other features, such as the eyes and wig, would likewise have been supplemented by color. At present, however, no traces of color remain.

In the strong and virile character of its modeling, as well as in its obviously successful portrayal of individuality, the statuette is representative of the better attainments of the period. While the higher qualities of portraiture, inherited by the sculptors of these later dynasties of the Old Kingdom from their predecessors of the IV dynasty, are seen to have been maintained in a number of well-known examples, these have come in general from the imposing tombs of high court-officials who clearly were able to command the services of the master-sculptors themselves. On the other hand, a great number of these cult-statues of the Old Kingdom, particularly those of smaller size, yielded by tombs of lesser importance—at Gizeh and Sakkara, as well as in the case of provincial cemeteries—are clumsily proportioned and mediocre in character. They show none of the inspiration of the other examples and are evidently the work of inferior artists. The present example, however, is an exception to this somewhat

¹Acc. No. 19.2.1. Present height, 18 cm.

general rule, and seems worthy of being placed among the more striking achievements of the time. A. M. L.

GUIDE TO THE COLLECTIONS. A brief Guide to the Collections¹ of the Museum has been issued for the benefit of those visitors to the Museum who wish first to know the easiest way of making the circuit

CLASS ROOM EXHIBITIONS. From May 21 to June 8 an exhibition of work in decorative design by seventh, eighth, and ninth year pupils of the elementary schools of the City was shown in Class Room B. This consisted of designs for textiles, wall papers, floor coverings, laces, embroideries, and costumes; studies for the ornamenting of various useful articles; and designs ap-



BUST OF A STATUETTE OF THE OLD KINGDOM

of the building, and second to have the most interesting or important objects in the different galleries pointed out to them as they proceed. It provides a bird's-eye view of the Museum as a whole, a point of departure for a more detailed study of the various collections, which may be pursued in many cases with the help of special illustrated handbooks containing much more information than could possibly be brought into so brief a general guide.

¹Guide to the Collections, 80 pp., plans, octavo. Price, 10 cents.

plied to a number of different materials, and was selected from the regular class work in design given to all pupils in these grades for the purpose of developing an appreciation of beauty in form and color. This will be followed from June 11 to June 18 by an exhibition of work done by pupils in the Stuyvesant High School in connection with their visits to the Museum, and in Class Room A from June 12 to June 20 by an exhibition of drawings, compositions, and other forms of correlative work done in the elementary schools in connection with the instruction in the Museum given by Miss Chandler.

THE STAFF. Russell A. Plimpton, assistant curator in the Department of Decorative Arts, has returned to his work in the Museum after his discharge from the Army. Meyric R. Rogers, assistant curator in the same department, has been granted a year's leave of absence in order to enable him to accept a Frederick Sheldon Fellowship from Harvard University, and spend the time in investigation and study abroad. George E. Plaisted, Jr., has been appointed an assistant in the department.

REOPENING OF THE LOUVRE. The following note, quoted from *The Museums Journal* of February, 1919, conveys information that must bring a feeling of relief and pleasure to many BULLETIN readers:

"The Louvre, which has been closed to the public, with the exception of a small number of galleries, for nearly four and a half years, was reopened during January. In August, 1914, when the Germans were making their first drive on Paris, the greater part of the most valued treasures was hastily removed to safety and eventually placed on exhibition in Toulouse, Blois,

and other cities far removed from danger. What this removal meant may be judged from the fact that no fewer than two thousand five hundred of the best pictures had to be hurriedly but carefully packed and got away southwards almost under the enemy's nose. Of all the priceless statuary the Venus of Milo alone could be removed. As for the remainder of the statues and antiquities, there was only time to place them in comparative safety against air-raids in those parts of the vaults of the Louvre where the overhead structure was thickest. It will be some months before all the galleries are completely rearranged. Not only is there extensive cleaning and other work to be carried out, but room has to be found for the remarkably large number of new works with which the Louvre has been enriched during the war. Among these are the collections of the Marquise Arconati and Baron Schlichting, while the Fine Arts Department has bought a large number of drawings and sketches from the Haseltine collection, and has received numerous important gifts, for all of which places must be found."

LIST OF ACCESSIONS AND LOANS

MAY, 1919

CLASS	OBJECT	SOURCE
ANTIQUITIES—EGYPTIAN	†Upper part of quartzite statuette, V-VI dyn.....	Purchase.
	*Three amulets, deities, Ptolemaic period	Gift of Albert Gallatin.
ANTIQUITIES—CLASSICAL	*Jug of moulded glass, Roman, I cent. B. C.—V cent. A. D.....	Gift of Robert H. Van Court.
CERAMICS.....	Seven pieces of porcelain, Chinese, XV-XVIII cent.....	Purchase.
(Floor II, Room 5)	Porcelain plate, Chinese, K'ang-hsi period (1662-1722).....	Gift of Mrs. Robert W. de Forest.
(Floor II, Room 5)	†Jefferson pitcher, English, d. 1804.....	Gift of Miss Lydia Seymour.
DRAWINGS.....	Drawing for the Morte d'Arthur, by Aubrey Beardsley.....	Gift of Albert E. Gallatin.
(Floor II, Room 25)		
METALWORK.....	*Gilt-bronze ornament, Chinese, late Han dyn.....	Purchase.
	†Two marble vases with ormolu mounts, French, XVIII cent.....	Purchase.

*Not yet placed on Exhibition.

†Recent Accessions Room (Floor I, Room 6).